

# Mitcham Cricket Green Community & Heritage

For the benefit of Mitcham Cricket Green Conservation  
Area and its environs

**BULLETIN: Autumn 2012**



**IN THIS ISSUE** • The Cricketers pub redevelopment returns • London Road Playing Fields • Latest news • London Open House • The Old Bank House on London Road • Become a member

## Welcome

Welcome to the second Bulletin from Mitcham Cricket Green Community & Heritage. If you remember seeing our first Bulletin in July, welcome back! If this is the first time you've come across us, we're pleased to meet you!

We're a voluntary civic group dedicated to the Cricket Green Conservation Area and its surroundings.

Find out more about us and our work at [www.mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk](http://www.mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk) and follow us @MitchamCrktGrn on Twitter. If you'd like to support us annual membership costs just £5. Joining details are on the back page.

## Latest News

This has been a busy period for us working in and around the Cricket Green Conservation Area. Here are some of the many things we've been working on.

We've attended another meeting of the SITA Community Liaison Group. SITA has permission to build at the Benedict Wharf waste management site creating an anaerobic digestion facility and waste transfer station. We're working hard to ensure current activity at the site is well managed, that lorries are strongly discouraged from entering and leaving via Church Road, and that local people's views are heard.

We are working with a number of other local groups to shape the spending of £1.37m in Mitcham Town Centre. This money has been provided partly by grants (from a resource called the Outer London Fund), and has been allocated to areas such as open space, public realm (the 'streetscape – how the streets look), and the market. Let us

know what you would like to see in the Town Centre by emailing us: [info@mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk](mailto:info@mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk).

We've submitted our bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a range of activities including to conserve the old horse trough, create an audio trail and research the sporting history of the area. We expect to hear the result very soon.

We had a really successful London Open House event at the Cricket Pavilion on 22 September. As well as opening the Pavilion we hosted a walk round the local area and a book signing. You may have seen the story in the local Guardian (<http://tinyurl.com/9e2yra6>). Look for more photos at our web site [www.mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk](http://www.mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk).

We worked to encourage locals to enter the Merton in Bloom competition, and plenty of you did. The winners were announced in October – see them at <http://tinyurl.com/c5vh8pb>.

## **Cricketers pub: A new application and an appeal against earlier refusal**

The owner of the Cricketers pub has put in a new planning application to build a block of flats on the site - the third planning application in three years. We have lodged a strong objection on several grounds.

The new building is much too large for this sensitive island site and will overwhelm both the Vestry Hall and fire station.

The developer says the new building is an “idiosyncratic design” based on “fake history”. This prime site in Cricket Green deserves much more sensitive treatment. You can read our full objection at our web site. We’re also asking Merton to look at the bigger picture and retain the whole island site for community use.

In a separate move the developer has lodged an appeal against the refusal of its previous application. This will be decided at an informal hearing – the council will make details available soon. This is a classic developer strategy, and an attempt to force the council’s hand.

Please get involved and help protect this key local site. Email [info@mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk](mailto:info@mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk) and watch [www.mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk](http://www.mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk) and [@MitchamCrktGrn](https://twitter.com/MitchamCrktGrn) for news.

## **Jubilee recognition for London Road Playing Fields**

We’re working on a proposal to have London Road Playing Fields designated a Queen Elizabeth II Field. This would permanently protect the field as outdoor recreational space.

The Queen Elizabeth II Fields scheme is being run in celebration of the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee and London Olympic and Paralympic Games, as well as the 2014 Commonwealth Games. It is run by an organisation called Fields In Trust and supported by the Duke of Cambridge.

Our earlier plan to designate the former News of the World Sports track at the Canons was blocked by Merton Council, who chose instead to apply our research to Figges Marsh.

We’re pleased Figges Marsh is being put forward, and now want to see London Road Playing Fields also get the attention it deserves.

There is more on this national scheme at [www.fieldsintrust.org/QEII.aspx](http://www.fieldsintrust.org/QEII.aspx).

## **The Old Bank House on London Road**

Major plans to extend the Old Bank House on the opposite corner to the Cricketers pub have been proposed. The new complex of flats would have a serious impact on the workshops behind and are insensitively designed. We've submitted a response to the proposals to Merton's planning department. Read it at our web site, [www.mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk](http://www.mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk).

## **About Mitcham Cricket Green Community & Heritage**

Mitcham Cricket Green Community & Heritage is the civic society for Mitcham Cricket Green Conservation Area and its environs. Cricket Green has great historical importance including a really interesting sporting heritage. We work hard to protect Cricket Green, maintain its much valued village character, and encourage everyone to enjoy its open spaces and take pleasure in its history and diverse local community.

We are part of a national network of hundreds of civic societies through our membership of Civic Voice.

## **Join us and make a difference**

As a local charity and civic society we rely on your support. How you can help us:

- Give us your views on issues in this Bulletin ([info@mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk](mailto:info@mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk))
- Ask us for more information about anything in this issue
- Join us – help us grow and become even more influential. Membership costs £5. You can find a joining form at our web site or send an email to [info@mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk](mailto:info@mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk)
- Come along to one of our meetings. We meet on the last Tuesday of every month at 6pm in the Cricket Pavilion (except December). Everyone is welcome.

Web: [www.mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk](http://www.mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk)

Twitter: @MitchamCrktGrn

Email and membership enquiries: [info@mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk](mailto:info@mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk)

*This newsletter was produced with support from Blythe and Co, chartered accountant and registered auditors, 352-354 London Road, Mitcham, Surrey, CR4 3ND Tel: 020 8646 0000*